(b) As per the new economic policy of the Government of India stipulating self-sufficiency of the Public Sector Enterprises, the budgetary support to Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) have been reduced from the 1990-91 level of 36.25% and 77.56% respectively to their total capital expenditure to 4.66% and 22.06% respectively in 1996-97.

(c) and (d). A statement in enclosed

STATEMENT

The budgetary support is not meant for meeting the entire losses incurred by CIL and SCCL. Despite the reduction in budgetary support, CIL, which had incurred a loss of Rs. 253.17 crores in 1990-91, has been able to earn a profit of Rs. 611.44 crores in 1995-96. However, the loss of SCCL, which stood at a level of Rs. 165.73 crores in 1990-91, has increased to Rs. 191 crores in 1995-96.

The Government has taken steps to restructure the arrear liabilities of CIL to the Government by way of waiver of interest dues to the tune of Rs. 891.75 crores, to convert Rs. 904.30 crores as arrears of repayment of loan into preference equity and to allow further moratorium of three years on arrears to repayment of non-plan loan amounting to Rs. 432.64 crores.

As regards SCCL, a Tripartite Agreement was signed on 24.9.94 between Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh and Singareni Collieries Company Limited. This agreement, inter-alia, provides for financial assistance to the compnay by the Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh during annual plans 1990-91 and 1991-92 and the Eighth Plan period, proportion of equity holding between the two Governments, management structure and an undertaking on the part of the company to produce 28.27 million tonnes of coal during the terminal year of the 8th Plan.

The agreement is under implementation and commitments upto 1993-94 have already been met by the respective parties.

[Translation]

Import of Machines

*138. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent by the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. on the mechanisation and modernisation of coal mines by importing foreign techniques and equipments;

(b) the details of those projects of B.C.C.L. in which imported technique and equipments have been used;

(c) the names and the details of collieries of B.C.C.L. for which techniques and equipments have been imported;

(d) whether all the imported techniques have been successful in India; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Bharat Coking Coal Limited has spent approximately Rs. 185 crores, besides 57.02 million US $ by way of multilateral assistance, on imported foreign technology and equipment.

(b) and (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

The names of BCCL Collieries and Projects where imported technology and equipment have been used:

S. No.	Name of Collieries	Details of Project
1.	North Amlabad	Installation of Degassification Plant.
2.	Moonidih	Import of Longwall Equipment, Road Headers and Pump pack system.
3.	Pootkee Balihari	Import of decking device in Pootkee Balihari Project.
4.	Block-II OCP (Coking)	Procuring HEMM for Block-II OCP under World Bank Loan.
5.	Gopalichak Colliery	S&T project with FRG assistance for establishing technologgy for Hydro-mining in Indian Coal Seams.
6.	Katras	Import of Longwall Equipment and technology for sub-level caving and for importing equipment and technology for blasting gallery method.
7.	East Katras	Import of Spares for renovation of plough.
8.	Mukund OCP	Import of one Russian dragline for dealing with fires in Mukunda Block.

(d) and (e). Various imported techniques have been applied in the coal mines of the country. Out of those, techniques like Powered Support Longwall, Blasting gallery, Shield mining have been, by and large, successful.

However, techniques like sub-level caving hydraulic mining, methane drainage etc. tried in a very limited

way, under Indian geomining conditions, were not found suitable.

[English]

IDF Aid to India

*139. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether India Development Forum at its meeting held in Tokyo had pledged aid amounting $ 7 billion to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the aid being provided?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The India Development Forum meeting was held on 19th and 20th Sept., 1996 in tokyo to discuss aid requirements of the country. The meeting of bilateral and multilateral donors took place on 19th September, 1996 where India's development partners pledged above $ 7 billion to US $ 6.7 billion + US $ 0.4 billion in long terms finance promised on a bilateral basis at market rates) for the year 1996-97. Out of this US $ 2.2 billion will be in the form of concessional assistance.

(c) The terms and conditions such as repayment period and rate of interest are known only after the aid negotiations/agreements with donor countries/ institutions are finalised.

Modernisation of Mints

*140. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of modernisation of Government of India Mints at Bombay, Calcutta and Hyderabad which was scheduled to be completed by March, 1992, has not been completed so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, Mint-wise; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). With a view to achieving self-sufficiency in meeting our requirement of coins, it was decided to modernise the India Government Mints at Mumbai/Calcutta/Hyderabad at an estimated cost of Rs. 118.28 crores at 1986 price level. Subsequently, it was decided to coinise Rs. 2/- & Rs. 5/-. The modernisation project was accordingly reviewed. The Government gave its approval to the project in June 1994 at a total cost of Rs. 301.82 crores and completion by November 1996.

The implementation of the project has not progressed as per the schedule since some of the executing agencies have not been able to accomplish the jobs on time. Civil works in Mumbai, Calcutta and Hyderabad Mints were delayed by civil construction agencies. The remaining works have therefore been assigned to new agencies. However, major plants & machinery have already been procured and have been installed and in the process of commissioning.

The equipments related to ferritic stainless steel stream are already installed and under commissioning and will become operational by March, 1997. The equipments related to cupro-nickel stream are also installed and under commissioning and will also be operational by June, 1997.

Shares of U.T.I.

1150. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Probe into sale of VSNL shares by UTI ahead of sell off" appearing in the 'Business Standard' New Delhi dated the October 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the outcome of the investigation and action taken or proposed to be taken against the Unit Trust of India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item refers to sale of VSNL shares by Unit Trust of India in a falling market which has further depressed the price of the scrip. Unit Trust of India has reported that during the period Nov., 95 to October, 96 it sold 21,45,200 shares of VSNL. The market operations were undertaken by UTI to meet redemption and dividend requirement of the schemes of UTI.

(c) Government has not undertaken any investigation into the matter as Financial Institutions manage their portfolio based on their commercial perception and internal norms.

Gold brought through Calicut Airport

1151. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of gold recorded to have been brought by Indian citizens working in gulf countries through Calicut Airport since the liberalisation of gold import scheme; and

(b) the quantity and value of contraband gold seized at Calicut Airport during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The quantity and value of gold recorded to have been brought in by Indian citizens